

## **Route 50 Corridor Task Force November 12 2008 Meeting Minutes**

The scheduled Route 50 Task Force meeting was held in the Middleburg Town hall on November 12, 2008.

### **Attendees**

Those in attendance were:

- Jim Rich – Co-Chair
- Peter Schwartz – Co-Chair
- Susan Van Wagoner – Route 50 Coalition
- Holder Trumbo – Member of Fauquier County Board of Supervisors
- Anne Coyner – Upperville Representative
- Betsy Davis – Mayor of Middleburg
- Jim Burton – Member of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

VDOT attendees:

- Jim Zeller, PE – Preliminary Engineering/Leesburg
- Ken Connors, PE – Construction/Manassas
- Kenny Robinson – Project Manager/Rte 50
- John Lynch – Acting District Construction Engineer

Other Attendees:

- Mike Carter – Loudoun County Fire and Rescue
- John Stuart – H W Lochner Engineering
- Two Route 50 residents

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman Jim Rich at 4:30 p.m.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the September 23, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Moved and seconded they be accepted.

### **Financial Report**

Mr. Robinson provided attendees the Route 50 November Financial Report. Mr. Rich requested Mr. Robinson review the Financial Report with the Task Force. Mr. Robinson explained all the costs associated with Upperville, Aldie and Gilberts Corners projects. Questions centered on the potential for Gilberts Corner to overrun estimates costs resulting from higher than anticipated design and review costs, higher right of way costs and the fuel asphalt adjustment costs. Asphalt and fuel adjustment costs are expected to decline in the short term due to lower oil prices but may rise again next summer. Task Force members ask Mr. Robinson to provide more financial breakdowns on the costs for Aldie and Gilberts Corner.

### **Upperville**

Questions were asked about VDOT's plan to handle snow removal in Upperville especially around the splitter islands. Several of the islands were damaged last snow season by snow plows. Mr. Robinson advised that Billy Green met and discussed this

issue with the Saint Louis Area Headquarters. VDOT will not use contractors in Upperville this snow season and has modified a snow plow blade with a rounded edges to prevent damage to the splitter islands.

### **Aldie**

There was discussion about the work to be performed by the contract in front of the Aldie Fire Station. Drainage items in this area had to be revised to fit between the various utilities, retaining walls, bridges, etc.

A request from the Task Force to remove the delineator signs installed by VDOT along the drainage ditch near the Aldie post office will be forwarded by Mr. Robinson to the VDOT Traffic Engineering staff.

The Landscaping plans for Aldie are almost complete. Elizabeth Lardner, Landscape Designer, is scheduled to meet with the Burtons in December. When the draft plans are delivered to VDOT, Mr. Robinson will notify the Task Force and have the plans available for public review at the Route 50 office in Aldie. Mr. Robinson will bring draft plans to the January 2009 Task Force meeting.

Ms. Wagoner and Mr. Burton requested by John Stuart provide them a set of the construction plans for Aldie. Mr. Stuart will forward those to Mr. Robinson at the Aldie office.

### **Gilberts Corner**

Discussion about progress on the roundabouts, it appears that the traffic detours will not occur until spring. Verizon has missed several deadlines to relocate their utility poles. Mr. Rich offered to contact Congressman Wolf's office to see if the congressman can persuade Verizon to step up the relocation process.

Roundabout #2 is about 65 percent complete, Roundabout #4 is about 20 percent complete and the connector road is about 75 percent complete at this time.

It was decided that the Route 50 Task Force would make a recommendation that on the Roundabout names as follows:

1. Roundabout #1 at the Route 50/15 intersections – Gilberts Corner Roundabout
2. Roundabout #2 on Route 50 East of Rte 50/15 intersection – Wolf Roundabout
3. Roundabout #3-Route 50 at Watson Road intersection – Mount Zion Roundabout
4. Roundabout #4-Route 15 South of Rte 50/15 intersection – Warner Roundabout

The Connector Road has already been named Howsers Branch Road by Loudoun County.

### **Middleburg**

The mayor requested that VDOT communicate more the town about paving schedule work with the town limits. The contractor was paving a section near the Middleburg Bank on Halloween this year that was disruptive to the local citizens.

The town would also like to meet with VDOT to discuss improvements to the crosswalks that would improve night time visibility and the addition of another crosswalk mid-block near the Middleburg Post Office.

The town would also like to discuss getting a permit to install lighting to the town's entrance signs.

### **Route 50 Corridor - Roadway Maintenance**

Discussion about the shoulder work East and West of Upperville. Memorandum of Understanding ready to be signed by Route 50 Task Force Co-Chairs and VDOT NOVA District Administrator. VDOT will place a stone/soil blend along all the shoulders repaved in 2008 and seed with grass up to the new paved shoulders.

The Task Force would like work towards a more comprehensive agreement for the entire Route 50 corridor. It was decided to invite Gaby Hakim, Leesburg Assistant Residency Administrator for Maintenance to a future meeting. Mr. Robinson will make that contact.

### **Future meeting**

The next meeting date is set for January 13, 2009, at the Middleburg Town Hall, 4:30 PM.